# NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE ADOPTION

# N 1 8 2007 STATE OF MISSISSIPPI MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES AND PARKS

#### BUREAU OF WILDLIFE

MS Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks c/o Sam Polles, Ph.D., Executive Director 1505 Eastover Drive Jackson, MS 39211-6374 (601) 432-2400 Sharon@mdwfp.state.ms.us Specific Legal Authority authorizing the Promulgation of Rule: 41-1-29-; 25-43.3.103

49-5-13; 49-7-31

Reference to Rules repealed, amended or suspended by the

Proposed Rule: W11-3434a

Explanation of the Purpose of the Proposed Rule and the reason(s) for proposing the rule:

2006-2007 Big Game Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits

This rule is proposed as a Final Rule, and/or a Temporary Rule (Check one or both boxers as applicable.)

Persons may present their views on the proposed rule by addressing written comments to the agency at the above address. Persons making comments should include their name and address, as well as other contact information, and if you are an agent or attorney, the name, address and telephone number of the party or parties you represent.

Oral Proceeding:

Check one box below:

 $\boxtimes$ 

An oral proceeding is scheduled on this rule on

Date: January 16, 2007

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Place: Greenwood, MS

If you wish to be heard and present evidence at the oral proceeding you must make a written request to the agency at the above address at least five (5) days prior to the proceeding to be placed on the agenda. The request should include your name, address, telephone number as well as other contact information; and if you are an agent or attorney, the name, address and telephone number of the party or parties you represent.

An oral proceeding is not scheduled on this rule. Where an oral proceeding is not scheduled, an oral proceeding will be held if a written request for an oral proceeding is submitted by a political subdivision, an agency or ten (10) persons. The written request should be submitted to the agency contact person at the above address within twenty (20) days after the filing of this notice of proposed rule adoption and should include the name, address and telephone number of the person(s) making the request; and if you are an agent or attorney, the name, address and telephone number of the party or parties you represent.

**Economic Impact Statement:** 

Check one box below:

The agency has determined that an economic impact statement is not required for this rule, or

The concise summary of the economic impact statement required is attached.

The entire text of the Proposed Rule including the text of any rule being amended or changed is attached.

Date Rule Proposed: January 16, 2007

Proposed Effective Date of Rule: March 15, 2007

SOS FORM APA 001 Effective Date 01/07/2005

Sam Polles, Ph.D., Executive Director

## MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS P.O. BOX 451 JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

### PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT NUMBER W11-3434b (I)

TO: The Honorable Eric Clark
Secretary of State
Post Office Box 136
Jackson, MS 39205
AND
ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

The Mississippi Commission on Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, at a meeting in Greenwood, Mississippi on January 16, 2007, under authority of Section 25-43-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, made known its intent to adopt the following **2006-2007 Big Game Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits**. This was done under authority of Sections 49-5-13 and 49-7-31, Mississippi Code of 1972.

Be it ordered that Public Notice Number W11-3434a is hereby amended as follows:

#### WHITE-TAILED DEER:

<u>Zone 1</u> - Areas north of U.S. Highway 84 plus areas south of U.S. Highway 84 and west of Mississippi Highway 35. OPEN PUBLIC LANDS include National Forests, Corps of Engineers lands, etc., that have statewide seasons without special regulations.

#### Archery

September 30, 2006 - November 17, 2006 (Either-sex)

#### Gun (with dogs)

November 18, 2006 - December 1, 2006 (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land.)

## **Primitive Weapon**

December 2 - 15, 2006 (Either-sex)

#### Gun (without dogs)

December 16 - 23, 2006 (Either-sex on private land)

December 16 - 17, 2006 (Either-sex on open public land)

December 18 - 23, 2006 (Legal bucks only on open public land.)

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## Gun (with dogs)

December 24, 2006 - January 17, 2007 (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land.)

## **Archery**

January 18 - 31, 2007 (Either-sex)

## **Primitive Weapon** (Private Lands Only)

January 18 - 31, 2007 (Either-sex)

**Zone 2** - Areas south of U.S. Highway 84 and east of Mississippi Highway 35. OPEN PUBLIC LANDS include National Forests, Corps of Engineers lands, etc., that have statewide seasons without special regulations.

## **Archery**

October 14, 2006 - November 17, 2006 (Either-sex)

#### Gun (with dogs)

November 18, 2006 - December 1, 2006 (Either-sex on private land; legal bucks only on open public land.)

## **Primitive Weapon**

December 2 - 15, 2006 (Either-sex)

## Gun (without dogs)

December 16 - 23, 2006 (Either-sex on private land)

December 16 - 17, 2006 (Either-sex on open public land)

December 16 - 23, 2006 (Legal bucks only on open public land.)

## Gun (with dogs)

December 24, 2006 - January 17, 2007 (Legal Bucks Only)

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## **Primitive Weapon**

January 18 - February 15, 2007 (Legal Bucks Only)

#### Youth Deer Hunt\*:

November 11-17, 2006 Private Lands Only

\* Youth eligible to participate in this special hunt are those fifteen (15) years of age and younger. Each youth must be in the immediate vicinity and under the direct supervision of an adult twenty-one (21) years of age or older. Furthermore, if the child is under the age of twelve (12), the supervising adult must be a licensed or exempt hunter. Both youth and adult must wear hunter orange, except while the hunters are in a fully enclosed deer stand. Archery hunters must wear hunter orange while this special hunt is in effect. Legal bucks and antlerless deer may be harvested.

## U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U. S. Army Corps of Engineers managed lands:

These lands are authorized to provide youth deer hunting opportunities on days designated by Federal Regulations. Contact local National Wildlife Refuge or Corps of Engineers managers for details.

## Bag limit:

#### Antlered Buck Deer:

The bag limit on antlered buck deer is one (1) buck per day, not to exceed three (3) per license year.

#### Zone 1 Legal Buck:

Only antlered buck deer with antlers of four (4) points or greater may be taken. An antler point is defined as any antler protrusion that would hold any size ring.

## Zone 2 Legal Buck:

Only antlered buck deer with antlers of four (4) points or greater AND either a minimum inside spread of ten (10) inches OR a minimum main beam length of thirteen (13) inches may be taken. An antler point is defined as any antler protrusion that would hold any size ring.

#### Statewide:

Any antlered deer may be taken by permit if it is necessary to manage deer on lands under the Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) or on wildlife management areas. A written management justification issued by the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks must accompany any request for such a permit. Any antlered deer harvested under this permit must be identified with a tag immediately upon possession. When being transported from the hunting area, all deer or parts thereof harvested under these permits must be tagged. Antlered deer taken by permit shall not be subject to the daily bag limit or the annual bag limit on antlered deer. One (1) antlered deer with any hardened antler (regardless of number of points, main beam length, or spread) may be taken per license year on private lands by a person less than sixteen (16) years old.

#### **Antlerless Deer:**

The bag limit on antlerless deer is one (1) per day, not to exceed three (3) per license year; except that two (2) additional antlerless deer per license year may be taken with a bow and arrow. The annual and daily bag limit on antlerless deer shall not apply to private lands under the DMAP or the Fee-based Antlerless Program (FMAP) as approved by the Department. However, all harvested antlerless deer that exceed an individual hunter's daily or annual bag limit must be tagged prior to moving with a DMAP or FMAP tag provided by the Department.

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U. S. Army Corps of Engineers managed lands: These lands are authorized to harvest antlerless deer on days designated by Federal Regulations. Contact local National Wildlife Refuge or Corps of Engineers managers for details.

#### WILD TURKEY:

### **Spring Season**

March 15, 2007 - May 1, 2007, in all counties except the following closed counties or parts thereof:

Desoto - South of Hwy. 304 and Holly Springs Rd., and west of Hwy 305;

**Humphreys** - East of Hwy 7 and North of Hwy 12;

Issaquena - North and West of Willett Rd. and South and East of Hwy 1;

**Leflore** - West of Hwy. 7 and Hwy. 49E and north of Moorehead Road and south of Hwy. 442;

**Leflore** - East of Hwy 7 and South of Silent Shade Road and West of the Yazoo River; **Sunflower** - South of Hwy. 442 and east of Hwy. 3 and Hwy. 49W and north of Berclair Road;

**Tate** – North of Hwy. 4 and west of May Rd., Deantown Rd., Poagville Rd., Anitoch Rd., Greenleaf Rd., and Smith Rd.;

Tunica - East of Hwy 3.

BAG LIMIT: 1 adult gobbler or 1 gobbler with a 6 inch or longer beard per day, 3 per spring season. EXCEPTION: FOR HUNTERS 15 YEARS OF AGE AND

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**YOUNGER**, one of the 3-bird bag limit (which includes the youth hunt and the regular spring season combined) may be any gobbler regardless of beard length.

## Youth Turkey Hunt\*

March 8, 2007 - March 14, 2007 on **private lands only** in those areas open for turkey hunting.

BAG LIMIT: See Spring Season bag limit.

- \* Youth eligible to participate in this special hunt are those 15 years of age and younger. Each youth must be in the immediate vicinity and under the direct supervision of an adult 21 years of age or older. Furthermore, if the child is under the age of twelve (12), the supervising adult must be a licensed or exempt hunter.
  - U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U. S. Army Corps of Engineers managed lands: These lands are authorized to provide youth turkey hunting opportunities on days designated by Federal Regulations. Contact local National Wildlife Refuge or Corps of Engineers managers for details.

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Anyone wishing to comment on the above proposed action may do so in writing to the Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, P. O. Box 451, Jackson, MS 39205, no later than February 15, 2007.

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY: William C. Deviney, Chairman

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISHERIES & PARKS

BY:

Sam Polles, Ph.D., Executive Director